

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 103) was agreed to.

AUTHORITY TO MAKE CERTAIN APPOINTMENTS AFTER SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now call up Senate Resolution 156, which is at the desk.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 156) authorizing the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders to make certain appointments after sine die adjournment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 156) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 156

Resolved, That notwithstanding the sine die adjournment of the present session of the Congress, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, the Majority Leader of the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the Senate be, and they are hereby, authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

PROVIDING FOR A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS TO RECEIVE A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now call up House Concurrent Resolution 194 which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 194) providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President on the State of the Union.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 194) was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR THE CONVENING OF THE 2d SESSION OF THE 105th CONGRESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now call up Senate joint resolution 39, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 39) to provide for the convening of the second session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the joint resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be considered read the third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 39) considered read the third time and passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 39

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled, That the second regular session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress shall begin at noon on Tuesday, January 27, 1998.

SEC. 2. Prior to the convening of the second regular session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress on January 27, 1998, as provided in the first section of this joint resolution, Congress shall reconvene at noon on the second day after its Members are notified in accordance with section 3 of this joint resolution.

SEC. 3. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and Senate, respectively, to assemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

THANKS OF THE SENATE TO THE VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to Senate Resolution 157 introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 157) tendering the thanks of the Senate to the Vice President for the courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 157) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 157

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate are hereby tendered to the Honorable Al Gore, Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate, for the courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over its deliberations during the

first session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like to note at this point in the RECORD that on occasion we do make use of the Vice President's office across the hall. He is unfailingly cooperative in making it available to Senators on both sides of the aisle. And it has been a pleasure working with the Vice President in his role in presiding over the Senate this year.

TENDERING THE THANKS OF THE SENATE TO THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to Senate resolution 158, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 158) tendering the thanks of the Senate to the President pro tempore for the courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 158) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 158

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate are hereby tendered to the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President pro tempore of the Senate, for the courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over its deliberations during the first session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress.

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I just want to call attention to this resolution. I think the President pro tempore deserves the accolades, the attention that this resolution provides. Many of us have watched with great admiration as he has conducted his responsibilities as President pro tempore. He has been doing it now for over 100 years.

(Laughter.)

And we are just grateful that he continues to do it with such aplomb. We thank him and we appreciate, as the resolution notes, his "courteous, dignified, and [extraordinarily] impartial" approaches to his responsibilities. And we thank him for that.

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I want to thank Senator DASCHLE for his comments and the accuracy of the years of service. I note that the President pro tempore is working now as we are commending him. He is diligently tending